

Appl. No. 09/689,339
Amdt. dated May 16, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (cancelled)

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Claim 15 (new): A data collection and communication apparatus, comprising:

a housing having a size and shape capable of being hand held;

an optical indicia reader, supported by said housing, capable of reading optical indicia located externally of said housing;

a manual data input component, located on a user-accessible surface of said housing, capable of accepting data input by a user's hand;

a wireless communication component, supported by said housing, capable of communicating data collected by the apparatus and capable of receiving data for use by the apparatus; and

a visual image generator, located in said housing, wherein said visual image generator generates an image located on a plane oriented upwardly and generally vertically such that a user can view a generated visual image without looking downwardly.

Claim 16 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said visual image generator comprises an illumination device capable of projecting an image onto a generally vertical surface.

Claim 17 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said visual image generator comprises an illumination device capable of projecting an image as a head up display.

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Claim 18 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said head up display is located on a vehicle windshield.

Claim 19 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said manual data input component comprises a keypad.

Claim 20 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said optical indicia reader comprises a laser scanner.

Claim 21 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said visual image generator generates an image onto a plane that is not parallel to a plane containing said manual data input component.

Claim 22 (new): The data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said wireless communication component comprises a radio frequency communication component.

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Claim 23 (new): A portable data collection and communication apparatus, comprising:

a housing having a size capable of being portable;

an optical indicia reader, supported by said housing, capable of reading optical indicia located externally of said housing;

a manual data input component, located on a user-accessible surface of said housing, capable of accepting data input by a user's hand;

a wireless communication component, supported by said housing, capable of communicating data collected by the apparatus and capable of receiving data for use by the apparatus; and

a visual image generator, located in said housing, wherein said visual image generator generates an image located on a plane oriented generally vertically such that a user can view a generated visual image without looking downwardly.

Claim 24 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said housing has a size and shape permitting it to be hand held.

Claim 25 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said visual image generator comprises an illumination device capable of projecting an image onto a generally vertical surface.

Claim 26 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said visual image generator comprises an illumination device capable of projecting an image as a head up display.

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Claim 27 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said head up display is located on a vehicle windshield.

Claim 28 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said manual data input component comprises a keypad.

Claim 29 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said optical indicia reader comprises a laser scanner.

Claim 30 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said visual image generator generates an image onto a plane that is not parallel to a plane containing said manual data input component.

Claim 31 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein said wireless communication component comprises a radio frequency communication component.

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Claim 32 (new): A portable data collection and communication apparatus, comprising:

means for portably housing the apparatus;

means for reading optical indicia, supported by said means for portably housing;

means for manually inputting data, located on a user-accessible surface of said means for portably housing;

means for wirelessly communicating, supported by said means for portably housing, capable of communicating data collected by the apparatus and capable of receiving data for use by the apparatus; and

means for generating a visual image, located in said means for portably housing, wherein said means for generating a visual image generates an image located on a plane oriented generally vertically such that a user can view a generated visual image without looking downwardly.

Claim 33 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said means for generating a visual image generates an image onto a plane that is not parallel to a plane containing said means for manually inputting data.

Claim 34 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said means for generating a visual image comprises an illumination device capable of projecting an image onto a generally vertical surface.

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Claim 35 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said means for generating a visual image comprises an illumination device capable of projecting an image as a head up display.

Claim 36 (new): The portable data collection and communication apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said head up display is located on a vehicle windshield.